

# HIV/AIDS Case Surveillance

HIV/AIDS surveillance is the on-going and systematic collection, analysis, interpretation, dissemination, and evaluation of population-based information about persons infected with HIV or diagnosed with AIDS

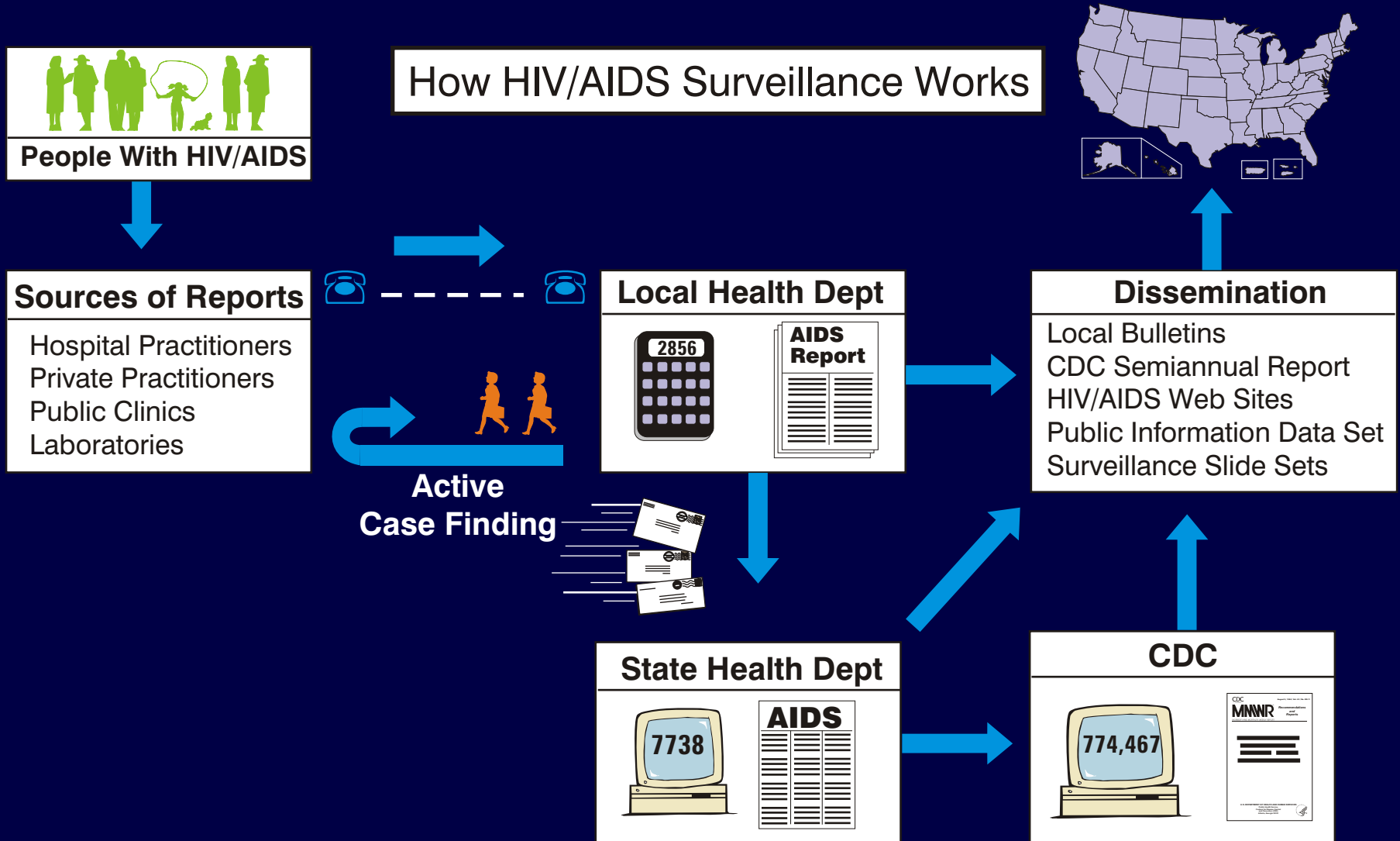


# How HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data Are Collected

- **Passive reporting**  
combinations of health care practitioners, hospitals, clinics and laboratories report cases of HIV/AIDS to state and local health departments
- **Active reporting**  
state and local health department surveillance personnel collect information by contacting health care practitioners and reviewing medical records in hospitals and clinics



# Core HIV/AIDS Surveillance Information Flow



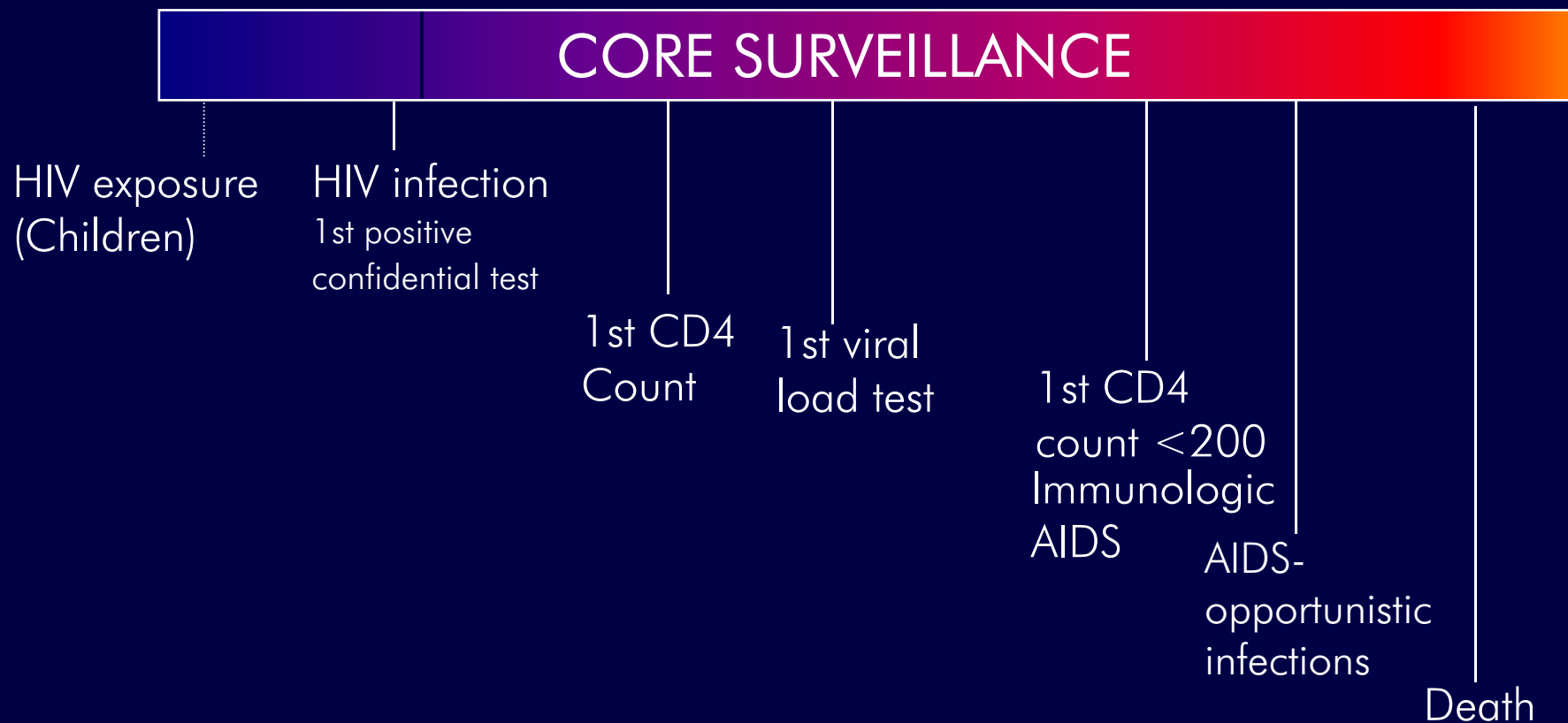


# What HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data Are Collected

- Demographic characteristics
  - sex, race/ethnicity, age, locality
- Mode of exposure to HIV
- Opportunistic illnesses and virologic and immunologic status
- Supplemental information
  - prescription of antiretroviral and prophylactic therapies
  - use of medical and substance abuse treatment services
  - health insurance coverage



# Core Surveillance: Reporting the Spectrum of HIV/AIDS Morbidity and Mortality





# Confidentiality of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data

- HIV/AIDS surveillance data are protected under State and territory laws that address public health data
- CDC requires that HIV/AIDS case data in state and local health departments are maintained in physically secure environments with limited access by authorized personnel
- Patient and physician names and personal identifiers may be reported to state and local health departments, but they are not sent to CDC. Data maintained at CDC are protected by a federal Assurance of Confidentiality
- CDC does not collect names, social security numbers, addresses or phone numbers of persons with HIV/AIDS



# Evaluation of Surveillance Systems

- Surveillance systems are evaluated for:
  - completeness of case reporting (compared with an independent data source)
  - timeliness of reporting (time between diagnosis and report)
  - completeness and accuracy of data collected
- Evaluation of a surveillance system provides information needed to:
  - improve the system
  - interpret the data collected
  - promote the best use of public resources



# Representativeness of HIV Surveillance Data

- HIV surveillance data only include persons who have been tested, and may not be representative of all HIV-infected persons
- It is estimated that at least two-thirds of HIV-infected persons have been confidentially tested and would be included in the HIV surveillance system
- HIV surveillance data can be statistically adjusted to provide an accurate profile of the HIV epidemic



# Limitations of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data

- HIV surveillance data only include persons who have been tested confidentially
- Not all states require HIV surveillance
- AIDS surveillance data only represent persons with late-stage HIV disease



# Uses of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data

- Monitor the incidence and prevalence of HIV infection and AIDS, and HIV-related morbidity and mortality in the population
- Estimate incidence of HIV infection
- Identify changes in trends of HIV transmission and identify populations at risk
- Target prevention interventions and evaluate their effectiveness
- Allocate funds for social and health services
- Facilitate access to health, social and prevention services, including medical treatment



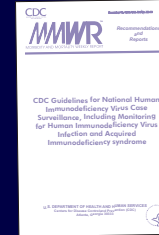
# Dissemination of HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data

AIDS hotline  
800-342-AIDS



**MMWR**  
MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

Prevention and  
treatment guidelines



HIV/AIDS  
Surveillance  
Reports



Public  
information  
data set

[www.cdc.gov/hiv/surveillance.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/surveillance.htm)  
[www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/nchstp.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/nchstp.htm)  
[www.cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/guidelines.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pubs/guidelines.htm)  
[www.cdc.gov/hiv/software/apids.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/software/apids.htm)  
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